AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A communication device for performing transmission and reception of a content with another communication device having a setting unit that sets a time-to-live of an IP packet for transmitting to a predetermined value, the communication device comprising:

an acquiring unit operable to acquire a time-to-live of an IP packet received from the other communication device;
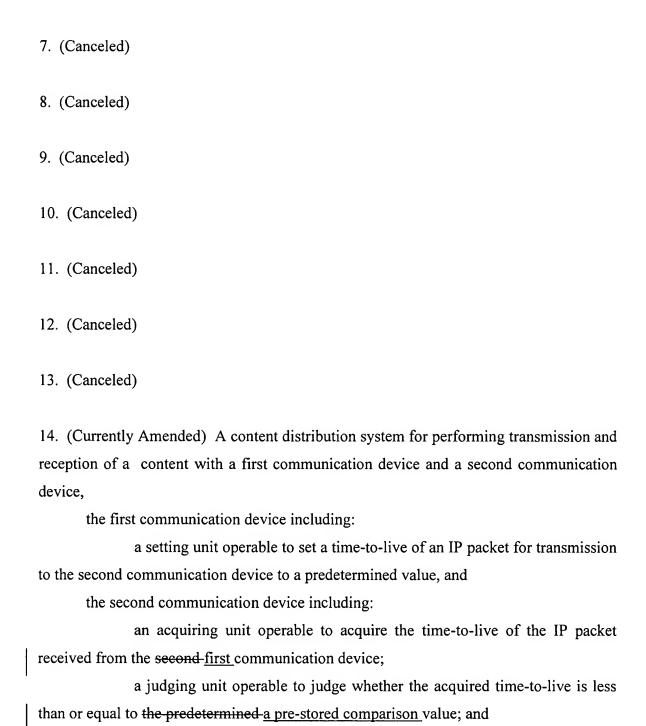
a judging unit operable to judge whether the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to ~~the predetermined~~a pre-stored comparison value; and

a communication unit operable to conduct content transmission/reception with the other communication device only when said judging unit has judged that the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the ~~predetermined~~ pre-stored comparison value, and to not conduct content transmission/reception with the other communication device when said judging unit has judged that the acquired time-to-live is not less than or equal to the pre-stored comparison value.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The communication device of claim 1, further comprising:

a key sharing unit operable to share key information with the other communication device.

6. (Previously Presented) The communication device of claim 5, further comprising:

an encryption unit operable, using the shared key information, to encrypt contents and decrypt encrypted contents, wherein

the communication unit transmits/receives encrypted contents.

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7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A content distribution system for performing transmission and reception of a content with a first communication device and a second communication device,

the first communication device including:

a setting unit operable to set a time-to-live of an IP packet for transmission to the second communication device to a predetermined value, and

the second communication device including:

an acquiring unit operable to acquire the time-to-live of the IP packet received from the ~~second~~ first communication device;

a judging unit operable to judge whether the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to ~~the predetermined~~ a pre-stored comparison value; and

a communication unit operable to conduct content transmission/reception with the first communication apparatus only when said judging unit has judged that the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the ~~predetermined~~ pre-stored comparison value, and to not conduct content transmission/reception with the first communication device when said judging unit has judged that the acquired time-to-live is not less than or equal to the pre-stored comparison value.

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15. (Currently Amended) A content distribution method for performing transmission and reception of a content with a first communication device and a second communication device, comprising:

in the first communication device

setting a time-to-live of an IP packet for transmission to the second communication device to a predetermined value, and

in the second communication device

acquiring the time-to-live of the IP packet received from the ~~second~~ first communication device;

judging whether the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to ~~the predetermined~~ a pre-stored comparison value; and

conducting content transmission/reception with the first communication device only when said judging judges that the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the ~~predetermined~~ pre-stored comparison value, and not conducting content transmission/reception with the first communication device when said judging has judged that the acquired time-to-live is not less than or equal to the pre-stored comparison value.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium having recorded thereon a content distribution computer program for causing~~:~~ a first communication device to perform a method comprising setting a time-to-live of an IP packet for transmission to a second communication device to a predetermined value, and for causing the second communication device to perform a method comprising: acquiring the time-to-live of the IP packet received from the ~~second~~ first communication device; judging whether the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to ~~the predetermined~~ a pre-stored comparison value; and conducting content transmission/reception with the first communication device only when said judging judges that the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the ~~predetermined~~ pre-stored comparison value, and not conducting content transmission/reception with the first communication device when said judging has judged that the acquired time-to-live is not less than or equal to the pre-stored comparison value.

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17. (Currently Amended) An LSI, comprising a computer-readable storage medium having a content distribution computer program stored thereon, for executing ~~a~~ the content distribution computer program ~~for performing transmission and reception of a content with a first communication device and a second communication device, the program comprising: in the~~ to cause a first communication device to perform a method comprising setting a time-to-live of an IP packet for transmission to the second communication device to a ~~predetermined~~ pre-stored comparison value, and to cause a ~~in the~~ second communication device to perform a method comprising: acquiring the time-to-live of the IP packet received from the ~~second~~ first communication device; judging whether the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the ~~predetermined~~ pre-stored comparison value; and conducting content transmission/reception with the first communication device only when said judging judges that the acquired time-to-live is less than or equal to the ~~predetermined~~ pre-stored comparison value, and not conducting content transmission/reception with the first communication device when said judging has judged that the acquired time-to-live is not less than or equal to the pre-stored comparison value.

18. (Previously Presented) The communication device of claim 1, further comprising:

an invalidation information acquiring unit operable to acquire, via a network, invalidation information identifying an invalidated communication device; and

a storage unit operable to store the invalidation information acquired by the invalidation information acquiring unit.

19. (Previously Presented) The communication device of claim 18, further comprising:

a comparison unit operable to compare the acquired invalidation information and the invalidation information stored by the storage unit; and

an updating unit operable, when the acquired invalidation information and the invalidation information stored by the storage unit do not match, to replace the stored invalidation information with the acquired invalidation information.

20. (Currently Amended) The communication device of claim 6, wherein
the encryption unit performs encryption based on ~~the~~ an Advanced ~~Advance~~ Encryption Standard.